

## 2014 Democracy Small Grants Program General Competition

The U.S. Embassy invites Ukrainian non-profit and non-governmental organizations to submit project proposals to the Democracy Small Grants Program. This program supports projects that foster the development and education of civil society in Ukraine. It is a focused yet flexible mechanism that provides seed money for unique and sustainable projects, particularly projects that help develop the capacity and sustainability of non-governmental organizations in Ukraine. Selection of projects is based on the applicants' ability to demonstrate concrete achievements which can show an impact in a given field or community. More than 800 projects from Ukrainian NGOs have received funding through the Democracy Grants Program since July 1996. Applications are accepted on an ongoing basis.

### ***Major Program Requirements***

- Grants can **only** be given to Ukrainian NGOs (non-profit and non-governmental organizations) registered in accordance with Ukrainian law. NGOs include, but are not limited to, civic organizations or associations, charitable foundations, and think tanks.
- NGOs and their members cannot represent or be affiliated with any political party, or with appointed or elected officials.
- Although the maximum funding available for a single grant is \$24,000, the average amount of awarded grants is between \$5,000 and \$15,000.
- U.S. or other third-country organizations and individuals are not eligible to apply for grants.
- General competition applications must be submitted in **both** in English and in Ukrainian.
- In addition to this general competition, the U.S. Embassy will, from time to time, hold special regional or thematic competitions, which may have different rules regarding project eligibility. Please check the U.S. Embassy website and social media sites for announcements.
- Project dates **cannot** exceed one year. Costs incurred before the official grant period begins will not be reimbursed.

### ***General Competition Project Themes***

Project proposals must clearly promote one or more of the following themes:

- *Human Rights*: Education, monitoring, and reporting. Proposals should describe follow-up activities and what segment(s) of society will be targeted.
- *Rule of Law and Legal Reforms*: Legal support services, public education and advocacy, judicial support, lobbying efforts and related follow-up activities.
- *Civil Society Development*: Initiatives that will further the development, effectiveness, and sustainability of the third sector.

- *Electoral System Support*: Voter education and elections monitoring including training and other election related issues.
- *Anti-Corruption and Transparency in Government*: Education and awareness campaigns.
- *Anti-Trafficking*: Projects to promote awareness, prevention and legal remedies.
- *Ethnic, minority and women's equality*: Advocacy, legal consulting and association building projects and related issues.
- *Economic Reforms*: Promoting market economy initiatives, improving the business environment for small and medium size enterprises. Supporting better working relationships between the public and private sectors. Lobbying for taxation reform and for other issues of concern to private enterprises and entrepreneurs.

**There is no fixed application deadline – this is an open-ended competition.**

#### **HOW TO APPLY TO THE DEMOCRACY SMALL GRANTS PROGRAM**

Send project proposals marked “Democracy Grants Program Competition” electronically to the address: [KyivDemGrants@state.gov](mailto:KyivDemGrants@state.gov)

In all correspondence, please refer to the “Democracy General Competition.”

**Application forms with instructions are available at:**

<http://ukraine.usembassy.gov/democracy-grants.html>

***Please note that incomplete applications will not be considered.***

Please use .ZIP in case you need to archive your documents. Otherwise send them as separate attachments.

*Applicants are encouraged to review the information on the U.S. Embassy Democracy Small Grants Program prior to submitting their proposals.*